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**31st, Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)** November 5th, 2023

**SUNDAY MASS TIMES**



 Saturday 6.00pm St. Patrick’s church

 Sunday 9.30am Christ the King church

 Sunday 11.00am St. Patrick’s church

**WEEKDAY LITURGY TIMES**

 Tuesday 10.00am Christ the King

 Wednesday 10.15am Christ the King church (Funeral Service)

 Thursday 10.00am Christ the King church

 Friday 11.00am St. Patrick’s church (Funeral Service)

**MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED**: Special Intention, Heatley and England families, Special Intention, deceased members of Christ the King Mixed Ability Club, Canon Dan Spaight, Fr. Patrick Cope (Anni.), All deceased Priests and Religious of Middlesbrough Diocese, Barry Steedman R.I.P.,

**ANNIVERSARIES: November 5th – 11th:**

Vera Smith, Catherine Hemblade, Veronica Wardell, Leslie Alfred Key, Thomas Donegan, Mary Joan Devlin, Grace Pineda, Mavis Butler, Lily Bradshaw, Mary Bell, Beresford (Bill) Errington, Ivy Nolan, Peter Bonner, John Wassell, Mary Walmsley, June Arran, Agnes Mary Wherly, Glenda Middleton, Maureen Dick, David Lockwood.

**PLEASE REMEMBER** in your prayers all our sick and housebound brothers and sisters.

**The word this week**

Malachi 1:14b - 2:2b, 8–10 Did not one God create us? Why, then, do we break faith with one another?

Psalm 131 **‘*Keep my soul in peace before you, O Lord.’***

1 Thessalonians 2:7b–9, 13 Like a mother looking after her children, we felt devoted and protective towards you.

Matthew 23:1-12 Addressing the people and his disciples Jesus said, “ …………….”

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or all God’s people, there is the need for constant vigilance, to be on guard against hypocrisy and complacency, the two greatest threats to our living God’s way and not our own, self-serving way. This is a prelude to the end: for the next three weeks we will think about the end of the world and the judgement that awaits. This Sunday’s readings should begin to encourage us not to fear and dread that day, but to look forward to it, by putting our lives in order and living as the Lord showed us.

**AT MASS TODAY WE PRAY** Eucharistic Prayer 2 and Preface 1 for Sundays

This table is made holy by our presence, prayers, and offerings in Christ. Together we find Christ in our midst as we lift up thankful hearts in praise. This is our feast, our sacred meal.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Please remember in your prayers **Mr. Peter Hart,** aged 80, from Ingleby Barwick, who died recently. His Funeral Service will take place at Christ the King church this Wednesday, November 8th, at 10.15am.

**ALSO, Mr. Andrew Hughes,** aged 59, from Stockton. Funeral Service at St. Patrick’s church this Friday, November 10th, at 11.00am.

**ALSO,** **Mr. Barry Steedman**, from Thornaby. His Funeral Service will take place at Stockton Crematorium on Tuesday, November 14th. **ALSO, Mr. Dennis George,** aged 74, formerly Thornaby until he married and moved to Whickham, Newcastle, some years ago. Dennis was an active Parishioner at Christ the King and played the Organ at our liturgies. May they rest in peace.

**NOVEMBER IS THE MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS:** Traditionally in the life of the Church the month of November is when we particularly pray for the Holy Souls in purgatory. All Masses celebrated in this month will be offered for the Holy Souls. The November Envelopes are available for anyone to write the names of family members and loved ones and these Envelopes will be on the Altar for all Masses during November.

**CHRIST THE KING CHRISTMAS PARTY** on Thursday, November 30th, 7.00pm – 10.00pm in Parish Hall.

Buffet Supper and Dessert. Bring your own drinks. Entertainment by Darren G and others. Tickets £10.00

**ST. PATRICK’S CHURCH CHRISTMAS FAIR** is in the church hall, Cranworth Street, on Saturday next, November 11th, starting at 10am. Why don't you all come along and get yourselves a bargain for Christmas.....

**CHRIST THE KING ‘CHURCH CLEANING’ on Monday, November 13th, at 10.00am – 10.45am. All volunteers very welcome in order to make our Church really presentable for all attending the Months Mind Mass for Canon Dan Spaight the following evening on Tuesday, November 14th, at 7.00pm**

**REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY** next week, November 12th. Mass will be offered for all who died in both World Wars.

**31st Sunday of The Year (A)**

**November 5th, 2023**

 **First reading** Malachi 1:14-2:2,8-10

I am a great king, says the Lord of Hosts, and my name is feared throughout the nations. And now, priests, this warning is for you. If you do not listen, if you do not find it in your heart to glorify my name, says the Lord of Hosts, I will send the curse on you and curse your very blessing. But you, you have strayed from the way; you have caused many to stumble by your teaching. You have destroyed the covenant of Levi, says the Lord of Hosts. And so I in my turn have made you contemptible and vile in the eyes of the whole people in repayment for the way you have not kept to my paths but have shown partiality in your administration.

 Have we not all one Father? Did not one God create us? Why, then, do we break faith with one another, profaning the covenant of our ancestors?

 **Second reading**  1 Thessalonians 2:7-9,13

Like a mother feeding and looking after her own children, we felt so devoted and protective towards you, and had come to love you so much, that we were eager to hand over to you not only the Good News but our whole lives as well. Let me remind you, brothers, how hard we used to work, slaving night and day so as not to be a burden on any one of you while we were proclaiming God’s Good News to you.

 Another reason why we constantly thank God for you is that as soon as you heard the message that we brought you as God’s message, you accepted it for what it really is, God’s message and not some human thinking; and it is still a living power among you who believe it.

 **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:

you have the message of eternal life.

Alleluia!

 **Gospel Reading**  Matthew 23:1-12

Addressing the people and his disciples Jesus said, ‘The scribes and the Pharisees occupy the chair of Moses. You must therefore do what they tell you and listen to what they say; but do not be guided by what they do: since they do not practise what they preach. They tie up heavy burdens and lay them on men’s shoulders, but will they lift a finger to move them? Not they! Everything they do is done to attract attention, like wearing broader phylacteries and longer tassels, like wanting to take the place of honour at banquets and the front seats in the synagogues, being greeted obsequiously in the market squares and having people call them Rabbi.

 ‘You, however, must not allow yourselves to be called Rabbi, since you have only one master, and you are all brothers. You must call no one on earth your father, since you have only one Father, and he is in heaven. Nor must you allow yourselves to be called teachers, for you have only one Teacher, the Christ. The greatest among you must be your servant. Anyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and anyone who humbles himself will be exalted.